

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. RES. 930

Recognizing and honoring York for his role in the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 20, 2006

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

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## RESOLUTION

Recognizing and honoring York for his role in the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

Whereas in 1804, Captain Meriwether Lewis, Captain William Clark, and a band of 32 men and 1 woman became the first Americans to explore the lands acquired in the Louisiana Purchase;

Whereas among the explorers was an African American who is known only as William Clark's slave, York;

Whereas York played an integral role in the success of the mission, including hunting, gathering wood, and participating in all the tasks necessary to the success of the expedition;

Whereas York's contribution to the expedition led to Clark naming "York's 8 Islands" and "York's Dry River" after him;

Whereas York was the only member of the expedition who was not awarded land or pay upon return;

Whereas upon return, York was returned to the degradation and captivity of slavery; and

Whereas this year the Nation celebrates the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) honors York for his contributions to the  
3       Lewis and Clark Expedition;

4               (2) recognizes York as the first African Amer-  
5       ican to explore the lands acquired in the Louisiana  
6       Purchase;

7               (3) urges students of American history to study  
8       the regrettably often overlooked role of York in the  
9       Lewis and Clark Expedition.

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